

Office of Economic Development

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STATEMENT CONCERNING SAN JOSE GRAND PRIX

SAN JOSE, CALIF., SEPTEMBER 11, 2007—The City of San Jose is disappointed that San Jose Open Wheel LLC's has decided to discontinue the San Jose Grand Prix, a key race within the Champ Car World Series.

San Jose Open Wheel, the producer of the San Jose Grand Prix, cited the overall development and construction in San Jose's Downtown Core as posing a major challenge to orchestrating a temporary urban race course. Construction currently taking place or beginning within the year includes seven residential towers and the development of property on Almaden Boulevard—a location used for the race's main grandstand spectator area.

Based on the City's economic model, during the San Jose Grand Prix's three-year history, it has contributed an estimated \$70 million in economic impact, attracted more than 300,000 racing fans and filled 28,000 hotel room nights. Additionally, the race was televised in over 170 countries and brought about a high level of awareness for the City. It also raised nearly \$3 million for the Canary Fund, the race's beneficiary, a non-profit supporting early cancer detection.

The City of San Jose is proud of its staff's efforts to create and host the San Jose Grand Prix. A multi-disciplinary team representing a cross-section of departments contributed to the production and success of this world-class event. These efforts demonstrated that San Jose has the capacity and continued ability to successfully host internationally-significant events and gatherings in its Downtown. Due to the City's performance during the Grand Prix, other events have been attracted to San Jose, including the upcoming San Jose Rock 'n' Roll ½ Marathon.

While the San Jose Grand Prix will not be a part of the City's 2008 summer event roster, there remains a variety of programs and special events to draw visitors to San Jose and contribute to the City's overall vitality. They include the San Jose Classic, May 16-18, the ZeroOne San Jose art and technology festival, June 4-8, the San Jose Jazz Festival, August 8-10, and Tapestry Arts Festival, August 30-September 1. Also for summer 2008, San Jose will be the site for U.S. Olympic Team processing for the 2008 Games in Beijing. More than 600 U.S. Olympic Team members, coaches and officials will gather in the City during late July and early August 2008 for two-day stays, prior to their departure to Beijing.

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